

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB

SINCE 1947

MAKING FRIENDS ALL OVER THE WORLD

The Southern California DX Club is a proud group of men and women of the world wide Amateur Radio community that enjoys communications with other Amateurs around the world.

The newsletter is published every month and is released to it's members on the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be used as time and space permit. Articles may with the recognition of the author and the Club be republished. Any questions regarding this newsletter or it's articles should be addressed to the editor. Some articles may be copyright.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month except April and December. Other times may occur. Please check the Club web site at <http://www.scdxc.org>.

Repeater: W6AM/R 145.48,
100Hz PL

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THE INTERNATIONAL DX CONVENTION VISALIA
SINCE 1949



4171



58th

Annual International DX Convention
April 27-29, 2007

The Holiday Inn Hotel

& Conference Center Visalia

sponsored by The Northern California DX Club

DX IS

IN SEARCH OF HAM RADIO

BY DAVE BELL, W6AQ

Why would any ham go to the Consumer Electronics Show? You show me a ham who isn't interested in the very latest in electronic gadgets and I'll show you a silent key.

How do you get in? You either become "Press" or you represent some company in the electronics business. And neither criterion should be beyond anyone who can master the menu in today's transceivers.

And of course, there's also the health benefit. You'll walk about 100 miles a day. CES is one BIG show!

With all the toys at this place, my search was for somebody, anybody, showing new ham gear.

"I came across this CB display from Midland which at first glance seems to be selling antiques! These things look just like the radios from the peak of the CB craze. Or maybe Midland just overstocked back then and are still trying to get rid of their surplus."



"These guys are missing a big market. Where's the S-38? Where's the Sky Buddy? If you don't know what these radios are you're not old enough to deserve nostalgia."

Visitors to the Consumer Electronics Show

“shouldn’t be surprised when they show up on You-Tube. Most of the new cell phones also make movies. Next year I’m expecting one that will tune the ham bands.”



“I couldn’t resist the salesman’s offer to be photographed with this giant telescope. In case you’re interested in another hobby, this one goes for \$40,000, about as much as a modest ham station.”

“When I saw Kenwood, I thought “Ah ha!” Surely these fancy Mustangs must contain mobile rigs. But my hopes were dashed. Music systems with enough power to crack the windshield were all that these big boy’s toys contained





“As I was about to give up hope of anything ham radio wise, in that mob of 100,000 people plus, I found the erstwhile SW Division Director Fried, WA6WZO, and his better half, Sandy, WA6WZN. They were my friendly faces oasis

“There are so many cars on display at the CES that the casual observer could be forgiven if he thought he’d stumbled into an auto show. After one and a half solid days of walking, I felt just like this tire on this pre big war Chevy.”



Conclusion:

While my search for new ham gear proved futile, my visit to CES was far from a total loss. I learned that flat-screen TV's as big as Cinerama don't cause RFI (or so they say anyway.) I learned that the chairman of the FCC doesn't mention the great value of BPL in every speech. And I suspect that if ham radio kit sellers joined forces and had a booth of hams soldering and building they'd attract a crowd. After all, what techie can resist something truly unique?



A fun thing

<<http://www.howmanyofme.com>>

Have some fun and click on the above and see how many people have your name.

SOME TRIVIA

THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW YOUR CELL PHONE COULD DO. There are a few things that can be done in times of grave emergencies. Your mobile phone can actually be a life saver or an emergency tool for survival. Check out the things that you can do with it:

FIRST Subject: Emergency The Emergency Number worldwide for Mobile is 112. If you find yourself out of the coverage area of your mobile; network and there is an emergency, dial 112 and the mobile will search any existing network to establish the emergency number for you, and interestingly this number 112 can be dialed even if the keypad is locked. Try it out.

SECOND Subject: Have you locked your keys in the car? Does your car have remote keyless entry? This may come in handy someday. Good reason to own a cell phone: If you lock your keys in the car and the spare keys are at home, call someone at home on their cell phone from your cell phone. Hold your cell phone about a foot from your car door and have the person at your home press the unlock button, holding it near the mobile phone on their end. Your car will unlock. Saves someone from having to drive your keys to you. Distance is no object. You could be hundreds of miles away, and if you can reach someone who has the other "remote" for your car, you can unlock the doors (or the trunk). Editor's Note: It works fine! We tried it out and it unlocked our car over a cell phone!"

THIRD Subject: Hidden Battery Power Imagine your cell battery is very low. To activate, press the keys *3370# Your cell will restart with this reserve and the instrument will show a 50% increase in battery. This reserve will get charged when you charge your cell next time.

FOURTH How to disable a STOLEN mobile phone? To check your Mobile phone's serial number, key in the following digits on your phone:(* # 0 6 #) A 15 digit code will appear on the screen. This number is unique to your handset. Write it down and keep it somewhere safe. When your phone get stolen, you can phone your service provider and give them this code. They will then be able to block your handset so even if the thief changes the SIM card, your phone will be totally useless. You probably won't get your phone back, but at least you know that whoever stole it can't use/sell it either. If everybody does this, there would be no point in people stealing mobile phones. And Finally....

FIFTH Cell phone companies are charging us \$1.00 to \$1.75 or more for 411 information calls when they don't have to. Most of us do not carry a telephone directory in our vehicle, which makes this situation even more of a problem. When you need to use the 411 information option, simply dial: (800) FREE 411, or (800) 373-3411 without incurring any charge at all. Program this into your cell phone now.

For Sale

Yaesu FT-107M solid state transceiver (Ivory color) with matching FP-107E power supply and speaker and matching SP-107P phone patch with speaker. Also includes original users manuals, Yaesu hand microphone, and original boxes. One owner, non-smoking. Equipment looks like new and in perfect working order. Works off of 12 Volts or 120 Volts. Great rig for newly minted Technician class licensee with HF privileges. Will only sell as a package. Asking \$650.00.

Arnie,

n6hc@aol.com 714-573-2965

For Sale

BIRD 43 Watt Meter. UHF/SO239 connectors. Excellent condition. Never used in field. With 5 elements: 50H, 250H, 1000H, 2500H, 100C and CC1 carrying case that will hold 6 elements. Original manual. \$550. Pick up in West LA. Will ship or bring to Visalia. Email me at WB6RSE1@mac.com Steve WB6RSE

FOR SALE
KLM-KT34XA
HY-GAIN V2S 2M VERT.
GOOD CONDITION-LOCAL PICKUP ENCINO, CA
K6YRA@UCLA.EDU

For Sale: Kenwood TS-940 HF transceiver includes auto tuner and cw filter options. \$700
Kenwood TS-450 HF transceiver \$500
Contact Ray Benny, N6VR (805) 649-9696 for more info .

GENERAL INFO

Hi,

I thought I would pass along a link to a new web page I created with a bunch of pictures of the W6AM super station. I know that Don was a long time member of SCDXC and some of your members would enjoy them.

<http://www.qsl.net/ne6i/w6am/>

Also, you can shorten the link on your web page to the Sixth District QSL Bureau to
www.kqlz.com/qslbureau6 .

73,
Dennis, NE6I

NEW HAM--- HOWARD W6EGZ IS NOW W6FL

Update on an old friend

UA4WHX (D60VB), Vladimir Bykov, who is currently on Comoros Island, had an accident which resulted in the amputation of his little finger on his right hand. He was off the air for a few days as a consequence. So he probably won't be on CW for a while. He has been on SSB today and yesterday. Let's all wish Vladimir a speedy recovery. Courtesy of the Daily DX (www.dailyydx.com <<http://www.dailyydx.com/>>)

The club hosted Vlad to a dinner a few years back when he was in LA overnight after his travels in the Pacific. <<http://www.scdxc.org/vladpics.html>> >>>

THE PREZ, HE SEZZ

As most of you saw in last month's newsletter, my new tower and SteppIR Yagi are up. Using the SteppIR is a markedly different experience from using the passive" beam I had at my previous QTH. It's a real kick to watch the controller as the elements track the tuning of my Mark-V. I'd like to express my thanks to Skip, KJ6Y, who, as he has done for me and for others so many times in the past, really came through and did a terrific job with new installation.



Well, it's April and, as we all know (and with apologies to T.S. Eliot), April is the kindest month. Why? Visalia, of course! Hope to see everyone there. It looks to be an excellent convention this year. If you haven't checked out the website, please do so. The NCDXC appears well organized and the big raffle prizes are going to create a frenzy of ticket-buying. If you haven't registered, do so now and take advantage of the fact that you can pay for your raffle tickets in advance, the distribution being in your check-in envelope, as I understand it. Nice touch. Again, for those of you who might not have heard, the John Jay is no more. It was taken over by the Comfort Inn chain, but they're honoring all past reservations for this year.

For the first time last year, I went up after work on Thursday instead of on Friday. I found this to make the whole experience much less frenzied. First of all, check in is easier if one is there early on Friday, and getting the desired a table together for the banquet is much easier. I'm going up on Thursday evening again this year. Yes, it's one more night's hotel fee but I think it's worth it.

By now, the initial wave of upgrade applications in response to the death of the CW requirement has hit, although at this writing I haven't heard much of an impact on the HF bands. It surely will come, though. The question in my mind is whether these newly upgraded hams will really use HF's unique properties or will simply transplant VHF/UHF chatter onto 20 meters. I would hope for better, and that with mentoring from those of us who've been active on HF for many years the newbies will become fully integrated into HF for its long distance benefits. We all need to be Elmers in this for, if we are not, we could be overrun by the "2-meterization" of HF.

See you all in Visalia! 73, JW, K6JW

THE RAMBLING EDITOR

Soon we will be in the middle of April with nothing to do but wait for Visalia. No meeting, no deli, no one to tell about the one that got away or about that special card you just got. Are we dreaming of that new piece of equipment or that old friend from last year? Maybe just trying to save your strengths so that you can make all the exhibits. I know I will be looking at some newer stuff or maybe some fun stuff. It will be there for sure. I will going up on Thursday again this year as it gives me the rest and some break before the curtain arises on DX DAY IN VISA-LIA. Tuck tells me that a new BBQ place is in town so Thursday just might be the time to check it out. As I am still in storage so the forums will be a place to find me. I will try to get some good photos for y'all and you can send some of your favorites. They take up a lot of space in the newsletter file but I can always send a separate one if you like. So drive careful and as Rosie says, enjoy the view.



Change of subject. In the past some members have asked to have ads placed in the newsletter and that is OK. The club approved that a long time ago, but how long should we post them? Some ads are removed and replaced by others and some are removed. Some seem to last for ever. So are they sold or have we forgotten about them? SO I ask that if you have an ad in the newsletter please send me e mail letting me know that you would like to continue for the next month. That way I will know to place or not to place the ad.

I know that the newsletter is a never ending hunt for the RED OCTOBER(excuse) but I could use some fresh DX stuff. Trivia and the like are fine but real DX stuff would be more interesting I think. So send me your cards and letters, poems and such, happenings and follies. All are printable with care.

We need a feature of the month . So who is going to be the first to tell us his or her story. I have met many of you folks and I will bet that this club could print a volume of stories. I would start with mine but I'm in storage remember?

Bye for now and GOOD LUCK in Visalia. Drive careful, see y'all there.
73 Steve,w6nrq
PS 88's too.

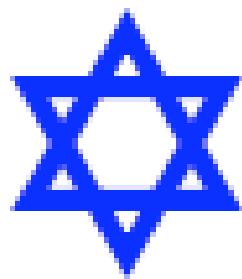
EVENTS IN APRIL

THE CELEBRATION OF PASSOVER ALSO CALLED THE FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

One of the Three Pilgrim Festivals. Celebrating the Exodus and freedom from slavery of the Children of Israel from ancient Egypt that followed the Ten plagues.

2007 date April 2 (beginning at sunset)

Passover commemorates the Exodus and freedom of the Israelites from ancient Egypt. As described in the Book of Exodus, Passover marks the "birth" of the Children of Israel who become the Jewish nation, as the Jews' ancestors were freed from being slaves of Pharaoh and allowed to become followers of God instead.



HAPPY EASTER

Celebrated this year on April 8 by both Western and Eastern Christians around the world. The use of different calendars causes this simultaneous date to occur once approximately every 7 years. Typically the Eastern Orthodox church celebrates Easter (Pascha) following Passover.



FROM THE VEEP

We all say it. But each time some little thought comes to mind or something happens, we say, "where has the time gone?" Wasn't it just a few months back that we were in Visalia for the annual convention? And here it is April again, one year later.

Are you ready for this once-a-year get-together with our DX friends from near and far? A time to mingle and talk about our DX conquests? A time for excellent seminars and tremendous prizes? Well, I sure am!! One of the benefits of hosting this convention every other year is we, the board and convention committee, can just enjoy when it's the NCDXC year, as it is this year. And I think the northern club has planned a good one for us all.



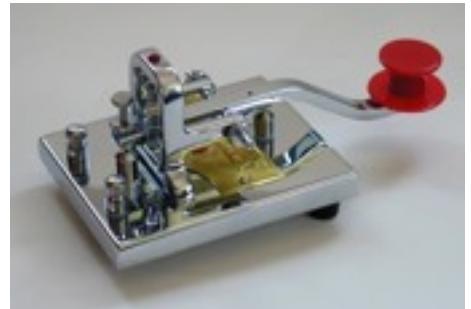
DX has been really stinky of late. More than it has been for several months. But, our DX good-times are on the near horizon. Since we are at the bottom of the sun cycle, there is only one way to go - and that is UP!. I even hear rumors that conditions will be better than ever. I sure like the sound of that. Since I am going for my "extra" in May, I definitely will be ready. I should even be able to get my last needed Zone 22.

Don't forget, there is NO meeting this month. I have a really good program lined up for you in May. Be sure to check our web-site to find out who and what it is.

SEE YOU ALL IN VISALIA! Sharon – K6IRD



CW THEN AND NOW



HAMCON 2007
ARRL Southwest Division
Amateur Radio Convention
September 7, 8, & 9 2007
Torrance Marriott Hotel-Resorts
3635 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA 90503-4809
1-800-228-9290 Hotel Resv. Code: HAMCON



REGISTRATION FORM

**ALL ATTENDEES MUST BE REGISTERED - Please list additional attendees
No Charge for Children under 16 when Accompanied by a Registered Adult**

Call Sign: _____ Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-Mail: _____

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	CALL SIGN	CHILD	ADULT

REGISTRATION

Early Bird (Post Marked by April 30, 2007)	\$15.00	____ @ \$15.00 ea. = \$ _____
Convention Pins Included (Supplies are limited)		
Pre- Registration (Post Marked by August 1, 2007)	\$18.00	____ @ \$18.00 ea. = \$ _____
On Site Registrations	\$20.00	____ @ \$20.00 ea. = \$ _____
Breakfast Tickets	\$20.00	____ @ \$20.00 ea. = \$ _____
Luncheon Tickets	\$25.00	____ @ \$25.00 ea. = \$ _____
Banquet Tickets	\$40.00	____ @ \$40.00 ea. = \$ _____

Short Ribs Salmon Chicken Vegetarian

Total = \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To: HAMCON, INC. P.O. Box 333 Pomona, CA 91768 For Information Visit HAMCON.ORG	Staff Use Only Date Received: _____ Amount: _____ Check Number: _____ Receipt #: _____	# Pins Given: _____ # Registered: _____ Other: _____ Other: _____
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